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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

1 8 MAR 1993

SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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Honorable Robert L. Livingston House of Representatives 2368 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Congressman Livingston:

This is in reply to your letter of February 24, 1994, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the <u>Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice)</u> in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This <u>Notice</u> proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the <u>Notice</u>, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely

Richard J. Shiben

Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division

Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

Chief, PRBureau Chief, LM&MDivison Docket Files, Room 222 CNTL NO - 9300978

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 03/02/93

LETTER REPORT

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REMARKS: Respond to the Washington, D.C. office.

ROBERT L. LIVINGSTON 1ST DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1801 February 24, 1993

Mr. Terry Haines Chief of Staff Office of Congressional Affaris FCC 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Haines:

Enclosed please find communication I have recently received from one of my constituents for your consideration. I would greatly appreciate your complying with their request, if possible.

I would appreciate your advising me of your action in this matter and returning the letters to me with your reply to my Washington Office.

Sincerely,

ROBERT L. LIVINGSTOMEMBER of Congress

RLL/ss

Enclosure

The Honorable Robert Livingston U.S. House of Representatives Fashington, D.C. 20515

Subject: Proposed Rule PR Docket 92-235

Dear Sir:

I have recently retired, and my chief Hobby is flying radio-controlled model airplanes. I regularly spend many hours enjoying this hobby at a field which my club has recently purchased.

At present I own six radios and five airplanes, which represent an investment of about \$5000.00. If the subject rule is passed, about half of the radios would become unusable, since the frequencies would likely cause interference, being too close to the frequencies I am using.

The aircraft I fly range from 7 to 15 pounds, and fly at about 60 mph. This aircraft, if control is lost by radio interference, could cause serious bodily harm or even death, if it struck someone at this speed.

I am therefore urging you to exert your utmost efforts to defeat this proposal, which would be very detrimental to me and many, many others who enjoy this wholesome and pleasurable hobby.

Sincerely,

87.0. Willig, Jr. 8709 Hermitage Place River Ridge, LA 70123

FEB 19 1993

BOB Dear

I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths. and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Eene Thamlor 6607 Campha-met. In 20005

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